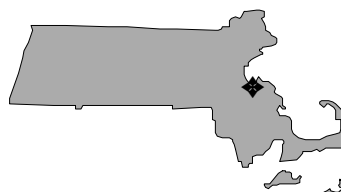


Size: 78 acres
Mission: Research and develop food, clothing, equipment, and materials to support military operations
HRS Score: 50.00; placed on NPL in May 1994
IAG Status: None
Contaminants: Pesticides, herbicides, pentachlorophenol, solvents, and VOCs
Media Affected: Groundwater, surface water, sediment, and soil
Funding to Date: \$16.3 million
Estimated Cost to Completion (Completion Year): \$28.6 million (FY2030)
Final Remedy in Place or Response Complete Date for All Sites: FY2003



Natick, Massachusetts

Restoration Background

Since 1954, this installation has supported industrial, laboratory, and storage activities for research and development in food science and aeromechanical, clothing, material, and equipment engineering. Operations used various volatile organic compounds (VOCs), including tetrachloroethene (PCE), trichloroethene (TCE), carbon disulfide, benzene, and chloroform. Site types include contaminated buildings, spill sites, storage areas, disposal pits, dry wells, and underground storage tanks.

In FY89, soil gas surveys detected VOCs under Building T-25 and the former proposed gymnasium areas. Groundwater, soil, and surface water samples collected during later studies also contained VOCs.

The installation completed an Expanded Site Inspection in FY92 that confirmed TCE contamination in groundwater. A Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS) began in FY93. The installation has performed several Interim Actions, including removal of waste and contaminated soil and pavement from the drum storage area. The installation also removed a 1,000-gallon waste oil storage tank and associated contaminated soil, and removed polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB)-contaminated soil from an exploded transformer.

After its placement on the National Priorities List (NPL), the installation increased efforts to partner with state and federal regulators and communicate with the community. The installation established a Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) in FY95.

In FY96, the installation conducted a Phase II RI of the Building T-25 area to address the concerns of regulatory agencies and the RAB. The Army completed the first iteration of the groundwater model, detailing movement of water and contaminants within the complex alluvial aquifer. The Phase I RI for the Building T-25 area was completed, incorporating the views of the regulatory agencies. The installation

began receiving drinking water from public wells and discontinued sampling of the installation's drinking water wells.

Also in FY96, all active sites received an initial Relative Risk Site Evaluation ranking, which incorporated the views of the regulatory agencies. The RAB received and reviewed work plans and reports and participated in relative risk rankings of NPL sites.

In FY97, the installation performed quarterly monitoring of groundwater contaminant levels in the monitoring well network. Bimonthly meetings with regulators increased coordination between regulators and installation. To resolve issues with regulators, the installation established a consensus approach to new work. Field screening with geoprobe and ground-penetrating radar was used to expedite site characterization.

FY98 Restoration Progress

The installation completed fieldwork for the RI at the former proposed gymnasium site and removed pesticide-contaminated soil. The installation also continued quarterly monitoring of groundwater contaminant levels on and off site and began the approved T-25 Treatability Study (TS) to contain contamination within the post boundaries. Initial results indicate that the strategy is working. The installation began investigating the boiler plant site.

The installation remedial project manager meets weekly with regulators to speed document review. Quarterly partnering meetings with regulators also encourage cooperation among parties.

Plan of Action

- Continue operation of the T-25 TS in FY99
- Complete RI/FS at the gymnasium site in FY99

- Complete the T-25 groundwater Record of Decision in FY99
- Begin a Removal Action at the boiler plant in FY99

FY99 FUNDING BY PHASE AND RELATIVE RISK

